Production of Fruits

1052. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bihar is far behind in the production of fruits, particularly the citrus fruits, in comparison to other States in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what facilities are being provided by Government to the fruit growers in the State; and

(d) what action Government propose to take to increase the production of fruits in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) Bihar is not far behind in the production of fruits. It has fifth position in production of citrus and other fruits among the States in the country.

(c) and (d) The Central Government under a Scheme on Integrated Development of Tropical, Arid and Temperate Zone fruits during 8th Plan period has proposed to establish (i) Large & Small nurseries and Tissue culture units for supply of quality planting material (ii) impart training to fruit growers (iii) supply of publicity material (iv) fruit demonstration plots (v) area expansion and (vi) improving productivity. During 1993-94 an amount of Rs. 84.34 lakhs is proposed under these programmes for Bihar.

Besides, State Government is providing subsidy which ranges from 30—90% on the planting material.

Import of Milk Powder

1053. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) What quantity of milk powder has been imported/received as aid this year and what is the impact thereof on milk production in India; and

(b) at what rate the milk-powder was received from abroad and at what rate sold in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) During the year 1993, N.D.D.B. has so far received 3,000 MT of milk powder from E.E.C. as food aid under Operation Flood against the indent for the year 1992. Due to the continued effect of good flush of 1992 and the expected good flush of 1993 there has been no off-take of this milk powder so far. This powder is still in stock with the N.D.D.B. and as such there is no impact of this gift powder on milk production in India.

Setting up of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Madhya Pradesh

1054. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether locations for setting up of Krishi Vigyan Kendras during 1993 94 have been identified in Madhya Pradesh:

(b)if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Planning Commission and Appraisal Agencies/Departments have given their clearance in this regard; and

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to expedite the work of setting up of such Kendras?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The issue is under the consideration of the Planning Commission.